

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed August 25, 2004, in which Claims 1-20 were rejected. Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited therein. The following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and, when coupled with the above amendments, are believed to render the claims at issue patentable.

Drawings Objections Under 37 CFR 1.83(a)

With respect to page 2 of the Office Action, the drawings have been objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a), for allegedly not showing the "sliding fixing pin".

Applicant respectfully traverses this objection. The "sliding fixing pin 220" is shown in the FIG. 1, and is located near the first fixing device 150 and the second fixing device 160. Referring to FIG. 1, the sliding fixing pin 220 is exemplarily illustrated by a hollow sliding fixing pin. Accordingly, the drawings fulfill the requirements of 37 CFR 1.83(a).

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

With respect to pages 3-4 of the Office Action, Claims 1, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Krum et al. (U.S. Patent 5,777,845). It is submitted that these claims are patentably distinguishable over this reference for at least the following reasons.

Krum et al. disclose a disk array which has a mainframe chassis including an access door. The access door includes a preload pad retainer 44 which is attached to an interior surface of the access door 18 and supports six preload pads 46 in positions intended to engage keepers 48 extending from the electronic modules 12 and 20 within the chassis 16 (FIGS. 4-7 and lines 20-34 column 5).

The disk array of Krum et al. utilizes the six preload pads 46 and the keepers 48 extending from the electronic modules 12 and 20 to fix the electronic modules 12 and 20 in the chassis 16.

However one of ordinary skill in the art should know that a conventional peripheral device, for example, a floppy disk, a hard disk drive or an optical disc drive, would have no such keepers extending therefrom. Therefore, each of the conventional peripheral devices will have to be modified by installing the keepers thereon to engage with the preload pads on the access door.

In addition, each of the peripheral devices is fixed in the chassis by the preload pads 46 and the keepers 48 by way of the sidewalls of the peripheral device.

In contrast, the present invention utilizes a spring device that presses only the first peripheral device, and a device clasper that presses and clamps only on the second peripheral device.

Meanwhile, the first fixing device is conveniently inserted into the screw holes of the first peripheral device for fixing the first peripheral device, and the second fixing device is conveniently inserted into the screw holes of the second peripheral device for fixing the second peripheral device.

Thus, it is not necessary to install keepers on the peripheral devices. Accordingly, any standard peripheral device, for example, an optical disc drive, a multi-function card reader or a hard disc, with standard screw holes on a sidewall thereof, can be easily installed in the peripheral device fixing module of the present application.

In addition, the preload pads 46 of Krum et al. contact both the disk array 10, which includes five disk drives 12, and the power supply module 20 having dimensions similar to the disk drives (lines 31-33 column 4). However, the device clasper of the present application only presses and clamps to the second peripheral device.

Further, the preload pad retainer 44 of Krum contacts both the disk array 10 and the power supply module 20. However, the spring device of the present application only presses the first peripheral device. Therefore, the spring device of the present invention can easily adapt to different size peripheral devices.

Further, the device clasper of the present invention can easily and steadily clamp the second peripheral device to fix the second peripheral device in the peripheral device fixing module.

Since Krum et al. do not suggest or teach a spring device to fix only a first peripheral device, and a device clasper to fix only a second peripheral device, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 11, and 18 define over the cited references and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

With respect to pages 4-8 of the Office Action, Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Krum et al., and Claims 2-4, 9, 10, 11 and 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Krum et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,388,876 to Chen. It is submitted that these claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited references for at least the following reasons.

Krum et al. do not teach or suggest utilizing a spring device to fix only a first peripheral device, and a device clasper to fix only a second peripheral device. Likewise, Chen does not overcome this deficiency. As such, the module base of Krum et al. modified in view of Chen cannot easily fix a first peripheral device and a second peripheral device.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 11, and 18 define over the cited references and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 2-10, 12-17 and 19-20 which depend from Claim 1, 11, and 18, respectively, also define over the art cited by the Office Action. Having overcome the rejections in the Office Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims as currently presented are in condition for

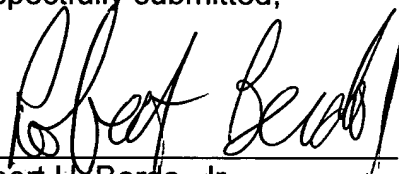
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allowance and hereby respectfully request reconsideration. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience.

Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the art cited but not relied upon by the Examiner. Applicant has concluded that these references do not affect the patentability of the claims as currently presented.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Berdo", written over a horizontal line.

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Date

Robert H. Berdo, Jr.
Registration No. 38,075
RABIN & BERDO, PC
Customer No. 23995
Telephone: 202-371-8976
Facsimile: 202-408-0924

RHB:vm

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